

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: S. HONMA et al. Confirmation No.: 9633  
Serial No.: 10/662,473  
Filed: September 16, 2003  
For: COMPUTER SYSTEM HAVING A STORAGE AREA  
NETWORK AND METHOD OF HANDLING DATA IN THE  
COMPUTER SYSTEM  
Group: 2153  
Examiner: A. Strange

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
2007  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 11,

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the foreign patent document listed in the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR §1.97(e):

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form PTO-1449 are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR

§1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language abstract of the reference.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger, Malur & Brundidge, Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. H-926-03) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

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